

[9 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

of a total capacity of 1570 MW are under construction and 9 HE projects of an aggregate capacity of 22751 MW are under survey and investigation by NHPC.

Poor Performance of SEBs

1961. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the July 15, 2000 wherein Montek Singh Ahluwalia, a Member of the Planning Commission is reported to have come down on the poor performance of the State Electricity Boards in the country;

(b) what are the outstanding dues of SEBs;

(c) whether transmission and distribution losses have been held as major concerns for SEBs; if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the matter; and

(d) whether the matter was discussed at any forum recently; if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Outstanding receivables of SEBs (in terms of number of days) of sales are given in the statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The major factors for the losses of SEBs are theft and pilferage, high T and D losses and unsustainable cross subsidy leading to a large gap between cost of supply and revenue collection. In some States, the efficiency of thermal plants is also low.

Government of India has taken a proactive role in promoting power sector reforms in the States to bring about commercial viability

in the sector. Power Minister's Conference held on 26.2.2000 resolved that reforms must be undertaken with determination, vigour and a sense of urgency. The key elements of the Reforms Strategy are:—

- (i) Energy Audit at all levels;
- (ii) Time bound programme of 100% metering of all consumers by December, 2001.
- (iii) Reduction and finally, elimination of power theft within a specified time frame.
- (iv) Strengthening/upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system by taking sub-stations as a unit on a priority basis.

If the above, appears unattainable in the existing setup, Corporatisation/Co-privatisation / Privatisation of distribution would have to be undertaken.

Statement

STATEMENT OF RECEIVABLES
(No. of days sales equivalent)

SI.	SEB	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
No.				
1	2	3	4	5
1.	APSEB	78	67	71
2.	ASEB	319	362	406
3.	BSEB	359	402	397
4.	GEB	51	53	46

1	2	3	4	5
5.	HPSEB	40	45	44
6.	HSEB	91	100	148
7.	KEB	141	154	179
8.	KSEB	116	127	111
9.	MeSEB	532	495	519
10.	MPEB	134	133	135
11.	MSEB	91	80	85
12.	OSEB (GRIDCO)	109	101	136
13.	PSEB	35	38	42
14.	RSEB	82	83	73
15.	TNEB	17	24	39
16.	UPSEB	311	367	379
17.	WBSEB	148	165	194

NOTE: Above position is after excluding provision for doubtful debts and unbilled revenue. SOURCE: P.F.C.

National Hydro Power Corporation

† 1962. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Hydro Power Corporation was constituted in the Public Sector with a view to make it responsible for Hydro-Power generation in the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.